

SMALLER DRIED FIG CROP IN 1974

Commercial dried fig producing countries report smaller 1974 crops. Total production is estimated at 89,000 metric tons, 9 percent below the 1973 crop of 97,800 metric tons and below the average level.

Foreign production is estimated at 78,200 metric tons, 10 percent below 1973 output. Early season reports indicated that the November 1973 freeze would likely limit Turkish production during the 1974-75 season (year beginning September 1). Favorable weather prevailed during the growing season and provided better yields in frost free areas. Rain falling at harvest affected the quality of figs drying on the ground, but not volume. Turkish 1974 production is estimated at 42,500 tons, the lowest in 10 years. Greek reports indicate tree numbers are declining slightly and workers were in limited supply. Greek production is estimated at 18,700 tons, 7 percent below that of 1973. Italian production, estimated at 9,000 tons, continues to decline, as isolated old trees are being replaced by other commodities.

U.S. production is estimated at 9,300 metric tons of standard figs and 1,500 metric tons of substandard figs.

Current 1974-75 prospects indicate the smallest foreign exports of figs and fig paste in recent years. Total 1974-75 exports are estimated at 43,200 tons, 11 percent below last season's level. Turkey, the leading exporter of fig products, shipped 30,000 tons during 1973-74. Europe is the biggest customer for Turkish figs, and Europe and the United States are the major markets for Turkish fig paste.

Larger imports of paste from Turkey, Portugal, and Spain increased 1973-74 U.S. imports of fig products to 9,897 metric tons. Individual items were 1,430 tons of dried figs, 8,450 tons of paste, and 17 tons of prepared or preserved figs. Current 1974-75 imports through December total 1,096 tons of dried figs and 1,261 tons of fig paste. Greece and Turkey are the principal suppliers of 1974-75 U.S. imports of figs; Spain, Portugal, and Turkey are the principal sources for paste.

FIGS, DRIED: Estimated commercial production in specified
 countries, annual 1971-74
 (In thousands of metric tons)

Country	1971	1972	1973	1974 1/
Turkey	50.0	55.0	45.0	42.5
Greece	23.0	24.9	20.1	18.7
Italy	18.5	12.1	10.4	9.0
Portugal	8.0	3.0	7.0	4.5
Spain	3.2	1.5	4.0	3.5
Total foreign	102.7	96.5	86.5	78.2
United States	12.1	10.1	11.3	10.8
Grand total	114.8	106.6	97.8	89.0

1/ Preliminary.

FIGS, DRIED: Exports from specified countries
 annual 1971-74 season beginning September 1
 (In thousands of metric tons)

Country	1971	1972	1973 1/	1974 2/
Turkey	36.3	41.6	34.2	30.0
Greece	8.5	7.5	7.1	8.0
Portugal	4.7	1.5	2.6	2.1
Italy .....	.8	.3	1.3	.3
Spain	1.4	.6	3.5	2.8
Total	51.7	51.5	48.7	43.2

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Forecast.

FIGS, DRIED: United States imports by country of origin
 annual 1971-73 year beginning September 1
 (In metric tons)

Country	1971	1972	1973
<u>Figs, dried:</u>	:		
Greece	1,175	1,625	1,197
Turkey	118	196	231
Italy	43	27	---
Others	---	---	1
Total	1,335	1,848	1,430
<u>Fig paste:</u>	:		
Turkey	347	1,051	3,698
Portugal	2,791	419	1,305
Spain	2,869	187	3,314
Others	---	20	114
Total	6,007	1,677	8,450
<u>Figs, prepared or preserved:</u>	:		
Italy	38	38	---
Israel	75	15	---
Colombia	4	31	15
Brazil	2	25	---
Others	56	3	2
Total	175	112	17
Grand total ^{1/}	7,517	3,637	9,897

1/ Totals may not add because of rounding.

WORLD COCOA BEAN PRODUCTION TO APPROXIMATE 1973-74 HARVEST

World cocoa bean production for 1974-75 is estimated at 1,459,800 metric tons, virtually unchanged from the 1973-74 outturn. This represents a decrease of 11,500 tons from the December FAS estimate of 1,471,300 tons.

Although African production is still anticipated to be above that of 1973-74, the post-Christmas harvest has been disappointing, and estimates for Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, and Togo have been lowered slightly from earlier optimistic levels. Favorable weather has increased estimates for Brazil and Ecuador, although harvests are still forecast well below year-earlier levels. The 1974-75 Dominican Republican crop will approximate only 32,000 tons, compared with the 1973-74 outturn of 35,000.

The world cocoa supply-demand position for 1975 indicates a modest stock buildup, following 2 consecutive years of inventory reductions. Cocoa bean grindings in the United States and Europe were off sharply in 1974, and continued high price levels for cocoa and sugar are expected to further reduce 1975 world cocoa bean grindings.

U.S. cocoa bean grindings during the fourth quarter of 1974 totaled only 106.9 million pounds, off nearly 28 percent from the corresponding 1973 period, when grindings were 147.9 million. Total U.S. grindings for the

year were 505.2 million pounds (229,157 metric tons), representing a decline of 18 percent from the 1973 grind of 615.3 million pounds (279,098 tons).

West German cocoa bean grindings amounted to 138,174 metric tons in 1974, down 9.3 percent from 1973 grindings of 152,365. The Netherlands grind totaled 114,910 tons, off 6.3 percent from 1973 grindings of 122,590. U.K. 1974 grind was 93,066 tons, off 13 percent from the 106,985 tons for 1973; the French grind totaled only 37,500 tons, down 20.7 percent from the 1973 grind of 47,300.

Cocoa bean prices were at record levels in 1974. New York spot Accra prices averaged 98.3 cents per pound, nearly 53 percent above the 1973 average of 64.4 cents. New York spot Bahia averaged 88.1 cents per pound, compared with the 1973 average of 61.1 cents. January 1975 Accra prices averaged 86.1 cents and Bahia 81 cents. Price levels through the first half of February have continued firm.

Although the volume of U.S. imports of cocoa beans and cocoa and chocolate products declined in 1974, record high prices pushed the value of these imports to an alltime high of \$469 million, up 50 percent from the previous record of \$312 million in 1973.

COCOA BEANS: PRODUCTION IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES, 1969-70/1974-75 1/

(In thousands of metric tons)

Region and country	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	Forecast 1974-75
North America:						
Costa Rica	4.7	4.2	7.3	4.6	7.3	7.5
Cuba	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Dominican Republic ...	43.0	26.0	41.5	28.0	35.0	32.0
Grenada	2.9	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Guatemala .....	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8
Haiti	2.5	2.5	3.5	3.0	3.0	3.0
Honduras .....	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Jamaica	1.8	1.8	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.2
Mexico	24.0	24.2	32.2	29.6	30.0	30.0
Nicaragua .....	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Panama .....	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Trinidad and Tobago ...	5.6	4.1	4.0	5.1	4.0	4.0
Others 2/.....	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4
Total	89.0	70.1	97.9	79.4	88.5	85.7
South America:						
Bolivia	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Brazil	201.6	182.4	165.4	158.7	245.5	200.0
Colombia	15.3	16.6	18.0	20.0	23.0	24.0
Ecuador	55.0	65.0	58.0	43.0	72.0	65.0
Peru	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Surinam .....	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1
Venezuela	18.3	18.9	19.0	16.7	19.5	21.5
Total	293.8	286.5	264.0	242.0	363.6	314.1
Africa:						
Angola .....	.5	.4	.4	.5	.5	.5
Cameroon	108.3	111.7	123.9	106.9	109.9	110.0
Congo, Brazzaville ...	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Equatorial Guinea	25.0	30.0	25.0	15.0	16.0	18.0
Gabon	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.0	5.0	5.0
Ghana	414.3	392.0	464.0	420.0	353.0	390.0
Ivory Coast 3/.....	180.3	176.3	222.0	178.8	205.6	215.0
Liberia	1.9	2.3	3.2	2.5	3.0	3.0
Malagasy Republic .....	.8	.9	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2
Nigeria 4/.....	225.0	323.0	265.0	264.0	218.0	215.0
Sao Tome and Principe..	9.7	10.4	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Sierra Leone	4.1	5.1	6.4	6.6	7.5	7.5
Tanzania .....	.4	.4	.5	.6	.6	.6
Togo 3/.....	23.0	28.0	30.0	20.0	16.5	20.0
Zaire	5.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Total	1,005.1	1,093.8	1,164.7	1,039.1	954.8	1,003.8
Asia and Oceania:						
Indonesia	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Malaysia	2.3	3.2	5.0	7.0	11.0	14.0
New Hebrides .....	.8	.6	.4	.5	.6	.7
Papua New Guinea	22.3	29.0	30.0	22.0	31.0	32.0
Philippines	4.0	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5
Sri Lanka	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Western Samoa	3.4	2.0	2.4	1.0	1.5	2.0
Total	35.8	42.3	44.8	38.0	51.6	56.2
Grand total	1,423.7	1,492.7	1,571.4	1,398.5	1,458.5	1,459.8

1/ Estimates refer to an October-September crop year. 2/ Includes Dominica, St. Lucia, Guadeloupe, and Martinique. 3/ Includes some cocoa marketed from Ghana. 4/ Includes cocoa marketed through Dahomey.

WORLD RAISIN CROP LARGER IN 1974

World commercial production of raisins and currants in 1974 is estimated at 604,800 metric tons, 11 percent above the 1973 level but below the 1966-70 average. Revised estimates place the 1974 crop at 515,000 metric tons of raisins and 89,800 metric tons of currants. Both U.S. and foreign raisin production levels were above those of 1973.

Larger crops by major foreign producers pushed 1974 foreign production of raisins to 297,300 tons, up 15 percent from 1973 output, and currants to 89,800 tons, up 11 percent. Favorable weather assisted bumper crops in Greece and Iran. Greek production is estimated at 95,000 tons of raisins and 85,500 tons of currants. Iranian raisin production is estimated at 50,000 tons. Turkish weather was favorable through most of the growing season, although rain at the end of September caused some damage to the last part of the raisin crop. Turkish production is estimated at 87,000 tons, slightly above 1973 output. Production in both Australia (54,900 tons) and South Africa (5,700 tons) was damaged by rain.

U.S. raisin production is estimated at 217,700 metric tons, 7 percent above that of 1973 and slightly above the 1966-70 average.

Commercial 1974-75 exports of raisins are expected to exceed those of last season, but remain below average levels. World exports are forecast at 245,000 of raisins and 51,500 tons of currants. Among major foreign producers, Greece and Iran expect larger exports, while Australian shipments will likely be lower. During 1973-74, exports totaled 229,100 tons, the smallest level in many years. Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Japan are major markets for Australia. The European Community (EC) is the major market for Greece and Turkey, while Japan, the EC, and Canada are principal U.S. export markets.

The above statistics do not include data for minor exporting countries such as Argentina, Chile, and Cyprus or Afghanistan, where volume of exports is often substantial but not readily determined. All production and trade statistics are reported in metric tons.

RAISINS: Commercial production, 1970-74
 (In thousands of metric tons)

Country	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 1/
Australia:					
Lexias	3.6	5.1	6.2	5.4	2.8
Sultanas	82.0	45.2	92.9	44.4	52.1
Greece	82.1	87.4	71.5	57.8	95.0
Iran	60.0	60.0	45.0	45.0	50.0
South Africa, Rep. of	12.4	12.2	12.6	14.9	5.7
Spain	7.0	3.3	3.0	6.0	4.7
Turkey	132.0	100.0	106.0	85.0	87.0
Foreign total	379.1	313.2	337.2	258.5	297.3
United States	175.5	173.3	95.3	203.2	217.7
Grand total	554.6	486.5	432.5	461.7	515.0

1/ Revised.

RAISINS: Exports from seven leading producing countries,
 1970-74 marketing year 1/
 (In thousands of metric tons)

Country	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 2/
Australia	56.9	44.9	74.1	39.8	36.0
Greece	58.0	84.7	55.5	46.0	65.0
Iran	37.2	40.0	37.0	30.0	34.0
South Africa, Rep. of	7.6	7.1	5.9	7.9	2.0
Spain	2.7	1.7	1.5	2.2	2.0
Turkey	82.8	98.2	110.6	58.0	58.0
Foreign total	245.2	276.6	284.6	183.9	197.0
United States	56.7	67.3	21.2	45.2	48.0
Grand total	301.9	343.9	305.8	229.1	245.0

1/ Marketing year beginning August and September for Northern Hemisphere countries and January for Southern Hemisphere countries.

2/ Forecast.

DRIED CURRANTS: Commercial production, 1970-74
 (In thousands of metric tons)

Country	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 1/
Australia	8.3	8.3	7.6	5.4	3.6
Greece	87.9	88.4	73.1	75.0	85.5
South Africa, Rep. of .....	.6	.7	.7	.5	.7
Total	96.8	97.4	81.4	80.9	89.8

1/ Revised.

DRIED CURRANTS: Exports from specified countries, annual 1970-74
 (In thousands of metric tons)

Country	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 1/
Australia					
(Year beginning Jan. 1)	3.5	4.2	3.7	1.9	1.5
Greece					
(Year beginning Sept. 1)	50.9	56.4	62.7	46.5	50.0

1/ Forecast.

RAISINS: Prices, landed, duty paid London
 average, September 1972 to date
 (In U.S. cents per pound)

Origin and Type	1972-73			1973-74			1974-75		
	Sept.	Jan.	July	Sept.	Jan.	July	Sept.	Jan.	
California:									
Natural Thompson									
Seedless	36.0	--	--	--	59.9	61.8	--	--	
Australia:									
4-Crown	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
5-Crown	20.9	--	--	--	--	2/ 50.7	--	2/ 42.8	
Greece:									
No. 2	17.2	38.0	41.4	1/ 60.1	2/ 44.5	46.0	45.6	--	
No. 4	16.8	--	--	1/ 59.2	2/ 44.4	45.7	--	--	
Iran:									
Maragha/Urmia ...	--	31.7	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Turkey:									
No. 9	1/ 16.4	37.0	40.0	1/ 50.0	1/ 39.5	44.5	45.6	1/ 38.6	
No. 10	1/ 17.8	39.5	--	1/ 53.4	1/ 40.2	45.4	48.6	1/ 40.8	

1/ f.o.b.
 2/ c&f.

WORLD STONE FRUIT PRODUCTION ABOUT UNCHANGED IN 1974

Despite poor weather in some major stone fruit producing areas, overall 1974 production of stone fruit remained close to the production levels of a year earlier. The variations in individual commodities ranged from a 1 percent increase in peaches to a 6 percent decrease in apricots.

Fresh apricot production in 1974 was 775,000 metric tons, 6 percent below that of 1973. A 57 percent increase in Spanish production offset major declines in U.S. and European Community (EC) crops. Wet weather and spring frost severely reduced the U.S. crop. U.S. apricot production of 85,000 metric tons was the smallest in recent years. The 1974 crop in France, usually the world's largest apricot producer, was barely two-fifths the size of the 1973 crop. By a large margin, Spain ranked as the largest apricot producer in 1974. Despite the short crops, prices on the European market were below those of a year earlier.

An increase in the U.S. tart cherry crop in 1974 was able to offset European declines caused by poor weather. The 1974 U.S. tart cherry crop was 47 percent larger than the 1973 frost-damaged crop. Commercial 1974 world cherry production of 1,156,000 metric tons was only 1 percent below the previous year's level and 4 percent below the 1971-74 average. However, output in Yugoslavia, the world's fourth largest cherry producer in 1974, was up 17 percent from the 1973 crop.

Total peach production of 4.8 million metric tons was 1 percent above that of 1973. U.S. and Italian output accounted for over half the world total. The 10 percent gain in U.S. production reflects a larger California clingstone crop. The Australian crop was back to normal levels after excessive rains reduced the 1973 crop to less than half of normal levels. Prices on the European market remained unchanged from 1973 levels. The precarious supply and demand situation is indicated by the fact that the French, even with a 26 percent reduction in the 1974 crop, imposed a temporary ban on Spanish peaches during the summer.

Plum and prune production dropped 4 percent below the 1973 level to 2.5 million metric tons, mainly because of a one-third drop in the California prune crop. U.S. production was down 15 percent from the 1973 level. In West Germany, the largest EC producer, the plum and prune crop was 13 percent below that of 1973. Total EC production was 9 percent below that of a year earlier. For the second consecutive year, the Yugoslav crop of 672,000 metric tons was below normal levels because of cold and rainy weather. Although 9 percent above that of 1973, the crop was just over half the record 1969 Yugoslav crop. The United States and Yugoslavia together account for more than half of the world output.

APRICOTS, FRESH: Production in specified countries,
annual 1971-74

(1,000 Metric tons)

Continent and Country	1971	1972	1973	1974 1/
North America:	:	:	:	:
Canada	3	3	3	3
United States	170	116	143	85
Total	173	119	146	88
South America:	:	:	:	:
Argentina	18	7	18	20
Chile	3	3	3	3
Total	21	10	21	23
Europe:	:	:	:	:
EC	:	:	:	:
France	98	101	150	58
Germany, West	6	3	4	6
Italy	106	74	112	110
Total	210	178	266	174
Other Europe	:	:	:	:
Austria	8	11	9	15
Greece	41	38	49	60
Spain	131	159	131	206
Switzerland	12	9	6	2
Yugoslavia	17	29	24	29
Total	209	246	219	312
Total Europe	419	424	485	486
Africa:	:	:	:	:
South Africa, Rep. of	20	18	15	17
Asia:	:	:	:	:
Turkey 2/	80	123	123	120
Oceania:	:	:	:	:
Australia	32	28	30	35
New Zealand	7	7	7	6
Total	39	35	37	41
Total specified countries	752	729	824	775

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Includes wild apricots.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attachés and Foreign Service Officers, result of office research, and related information.

CHERRIES, FRESH: Production in specified countries,
annual 1971-74

(1,000 Metric Tons)

Continent and Country	1971	1972	1973	1974 1/
<u>SWEET</u>				
Canada	11	7	10	7
United States	128	86	143	134
Austria	25	17	29	25
Germany, West	190	105	156	120
Greece	19	22	25	19
Turkey	55	65	62	62
Yugoslavia	59	50	52	56
<u>SOUR</u>				
Canada	10	8	5	8
United States	127	141	79	116
Austria	3	2	3	3
Germany, West	112	83	92	91
Greece	8	7	8	6
Turkey	31	35	33	33
Yugoslavia	47	48	41	53
<u>ALL CHERRIES 2/</u>				
North America:				
Canada	21	15	15	15
United States	255	227	222	250
Total	276	242	237	265
South America:				
Argentina	3	1	3	3
Chile	3	3	3	3
Total	6	4	6	6
Europe:				
<u>EC</u>				
Belgium-Luxembourg	22	9	12	22
Denmark	3	3	2	3
France	119	104	105	106
Germany, West	302	188	248	211

CHERRIES, FRESH: Production in specified countries,
annual 1971-74 (continued)

(1,000 Metric Tons)

Continent and Country	1971	1972	1973	1974 1/
<u>ALL CHERRIES 2/</u>	:	:	:	:
Europe:	:	:	:	:
<u>EC (continued)</u>	:	:	:	:
Italy	227	205	178	170
Netherlands	8	2	3	5
United Kingdom	9	9	8	8
Total	690	520	556	525
<u>Other Europe</u>	:	:	:	:
Austria	28	19	32	28
Greece	27	29	33	25
Norway	5	5	3	5
Spain	49	57	69	54
Switzerland	45	14	19	15
Yugoslavia	106	98	93	109
Total	260	222	249	236
Total Europe	950	742	805	761
Asia:	:	:	:	:
Japan	6	11	16	18
Turkey	86	100	95	95
Total	92	111	111	113
Oceania:	:	:	:	:
Australia	11	10	11	11
Total specified countries	1,335	1,109	1,170	1,156

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Includes countries shown separately in categories covering sweet and sour varieties.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research, and related information.

PEACHES, FRESH: Production in specified countries,
annual 1971-74

(1,000 Metric Tons)

Continent and Country	1971	1972	1973	1974 1/
North America:	:	:	:	:
Canada	59	38	45	52
United States	1,307	1,093	1,189	1,311
Total	1,366	1,131	1,234	1,363
South America:	:	:	:	:
Argentina	265	90	265	277
Chile	39	36	31	32
Total	304	126	296	309
Europe:	:	:	:	:
<u>EC</u>	:	:	:	:
France	595	566	599	446
Germany, West	43	20	34	34
Italy	1,249	1,268	1,177	1,200
Total	1,887	1,854	1,810	1,680
Other Europe	:	:	:	:
Austria	6	5	7	7
Greece	207	238	268	271
Spain	266	328	373	389
Yugoslavia	62	68	68	65
Total	541	639	716	732
Total Europe	2,428	2,493	2,526	2,412
Africa:	:	:	:	:
South Africa, Rep. of	145	148	153	142
Asia:	:	:	:	:
Japan	265	248	277	288
Turkey	84	140	130	130
Total	349	388	407	418
Oceania:	:	:	:	:
Australia	117	114	76	115
New Zealand	22	25	24	22
Total	139	139	100	137
Total specified countries	4,731	4,425	4,716	4,781

1/ Preliminary.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attachés and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research, and related information.

PLUMS AND PRUNES, FRESH: Production in specified countries,
annual 1971-74

(1,000 Metric Tons)

Continent and Country	1971	1972	1973	1974	^{1/}
North America:	:	:	:	:	
Canada	11	8	9	6	
United States	528	321	694	593	
Total	539	329	703	599	
South America:	:	:	:	:	
Argentina	73	29	80	88	
Chile	22	22	20	23	
Total	95	51	100	111	
Europe:	:	:	:	:	
<u>EC</u>	:	:	:	:	
Belgium-Luxembourg	8	4	5	8	
France	167	143	151	149	
Germany, West	484	344	444	385	
Italy	145	152	128	122	
Netherlands	6	8	7	8	
United Kingdom	36	45	52	47	
Total	846	696	787	719	
<u>Other Europe</u>	:	:	:	:	
Austria	66	60	94	95	
Greece	18	18	18	18	
Norway	11	15	10	17	
Spain	68	69	83	74	
Sweden	1	2	1	1	
Switzerland	47	29	46	35	
Yugoslavia	817	972	615	672	
Total	1,028	1,165	867	912	
Total Europe	1,874	1,861	1,654	1,631	
Africa:	:	:	:	:	
South Africa, Rep. of	7	9	5	6	
Asia:	:	:	:	:	
Japan	56	36	60	72	
Turkey	111	131	120	120	
Total	167	167	180	192	
Oceania:	:	:	:	:	
New Zealand	4	5	2	4	
Total specified countries	2,686	2,422	2,644	2,543	

^{1/} Preliminary.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attachés and Foreign Service Officers, result of office research, and related information.

WORLD APPLE AND PEAR PRODUCTION DOWN IN 1974

The 1974 output of apples in the major producing countries of the world totaled 14.7 million metric tons, 10 percent below that of a year earlier but only 3 percent below the 1971-73 average.

The decline was particularly significant in the European Community, where production was 24 percent below that of 1973. The smaller crop, resulting from unusually bad weather, appreciably improved marketing conditions during the 1974-75 season. Production in West Germany, the most important apple importing country on the Continent, was down 41 percent from the 1973 level and less than half the abnormally large crop of 1969.

Apple production increased in non-European producing areas. The North American crop of 3.5 million metric tons was 4 percent larger than that of a year earlier. Combined output in the major exporting countries of the Southern Hemisphere—Argentina, Australia, Chile, New Zealand, and the Republic of South Africa—was also close to last year's level. Production in these five countries was 6 percent above the 1973 level.

Pear production in the world's major producing countries for 1974 totaled 4.9 million metric tons, down 5 percent from that of 1973 and 10 percent below the record high of 1970.

The European pear crop was 9 percent below that of 1973. Larger crops in the smaller producing countries were not able to offset the production declines in Italy, Spain, and France, the major European producing and exporting countries. The market situation for European pears has improved as a result of the smaller crop.

The 1974 pear crop in the United States, the largest North American producer, was off 2 percent from the 1973 crop, largely as a result of a decline in production of Pacific Coast Bartletts.

Pear production in major Southern Hemisphere producing countries increased 5 percent from that of 1973. The South African crop, which was a third larger than last year's, offset smaller crops in other areas.

APPLES: Production of dessert and cooking varieties
in specified countries, annually 1970-74 1/

(1,000 Metric Tons)

Continent and Country	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 2/
North America:					
Canada 3/	406	398	393	375	407
Mexico	162	162	161	190	213
United States 3/	2,902	2,890	2,668	2,830	2,900
Total	3,470	3,450	3,222	3,395	3,520
South America:					
Argentina	424	512	233	786	747
Chile 3/	93	95	70	95	95
Europe:					
EC:					
Belgium-Luxembourg	252	280	264	246	183
Denmark 3/	83	80	64	80	75
France 4/	1,876	1,854	1,719	2,060	1,627
Germany, West	1,777	1,980	1,239	2,016	1,194
Italy	2,062	1,698	1,873	2,050	1,838
Netherlands	450	520	400	460	365
United Kingdom 4/	491	466	350	456	352
Total EC	6,991	6,878	5,909	7,368	5,634
Other Europe:					
Austria 4/	188	158	112	187	205
Greece	207	225	183	233	200
Norway	48	51	50	36	57
Spain	449	571	738	1,015	944
Sweden 3/	43	43	46	42	35
Switzerland 4/	90	111	95	112	78
Yugoslavia	277	327	309	448	370
Total Other	1,302	1,486	1,533	2,073	1,889
Total Europe	8,293	8,364	7,442	9,441	7,523
Africa:					
South Africa, Rep. of	226	346	289	307	360
Asia:					
Japan	1,021	1,007	959	963	924
Lebanon	120	170	184	160	174
Turkey	748	780	850	800	800
Oceania:					
Australia	443	360	456	354	429
New Zealand	114	149	144	147	154
Total specified countries ...	14,952	15,233	13,849	16,448	14,726

1/ May include some cider varieties in countries not reporting separately. Years shown refer to years of harvest in Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere, which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1973 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvest, which began in late 1973 and ended early in 1974.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Commercial crop.

4/ Excludes cider apples reported separately.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attachés and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research, and related information.

PEARS: Production of dessert and cooking varieties
in specified countries, annually 1970-74 1/

(1,000 Metric Tons)

Continent and Country	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 2/
North America:					
Canada 3/	38	43	39	31	40
Mexico	41	34	35	36	40
United States 3/	498	680	555	661	645
Total	577	757	629	728	725
South America:					
Argentina	74	98	43	110	105
Chile 3/	21	21	17	20	19
Europe:					
EC:					
Belgium-Luxembourg	99	60	51	30	79
Denmark 3/	10	7	8	7	9
France 4/	536	553	439	492	388
Germany, West	551	414	344	414	322
Italy	1,906	1,706	1,536	1,570	1,435
Netherlands	160	110	95	55	115
United Kingdom 4/	72	66	49	44	47
Total EC	3,334	2,916	2,522	2,612	2,395
Other Europe:					
Austria 4/	52	48	30	54	51
Greece	109	104	114	121	88
Norway	10	8	13	5	13
Spain	226	401	460	470	443
Sweden 3/	7	7	6	4	6
Switzerland 4/	21	23	13	26	10
Yugoslavia	112	112	91	141	120
Total Other	537	703	727	821	731
Total Europe	3,871	3,619	3,249	3,433	3,126
Africa:					
South Africa, Rep. of	91	99	102	75	100
Asia:					
Japan	464	440	460	495	514
Lebanon	7	4	8	4	4
Turkey	180	175	196	160	170
Oceania:					
Australia	188	184	163	163	160
New Zealand	20	19	19	16	18
Total specified countries ...	5,493	5,416	4,886	5,204	4,941

1/ May include some cider varieties in countries not reporting separately. Years shown refer to years of harvest in Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere, which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1973 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvest, which began in late 1973 and ended early in 1974.

2/ Preliminary

3/ Commercial crop.

4/ Excludes cider pears reported separately.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attachés and Foreign Service Officers, result of office research, and related information.

WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION MARGINALLY INCREASED

World cotton production in 1974-75 (August-July) is estimated at a record 63.1 million bales (480 lb net), an increase of 1 million bales from last year's record crop. Gains of 1.3 million bales in foreign non-Communist countries and over 1 million in Communist countries more than offset a decline of 1.3 million bales in the United States.

Area devoted to cotton in the current season, totaling 82.6 million acres, increased slightly from last season's 80.7 million. Projected world acreage and production this season give an average yield per acre of 367 pounds, marginally below last season's 369 pounds.

Bad weather in the U.S. cotton belt has reduced current season cotton production to 11.7 million bales, about 10 percent below last season's 13 million. Although harvested area in the five Delta States this season increased about 26 percent to 4.3 million acres, excessive late summer and fall rains lowered average yields and reduced production to 3.7 million bales, compared with 4 million last season. On the Texas High Plains and in Oklahoma, summer drought during the growing season followed by cold wet weather in the fall lowered both acreage and yield, resulting in a drop in production this season of nearly 45 percent to 2.9 million bales, compared with 5.1 last season. Although excess rain also lowered production in parts of the Southeast, overall production in that area increased slightly. In the West, where weather during the growing and harvesting season was good, production this season increased sharply. Outturn in California and Arizona was up 48 percent to 3.6 million bales. The U.S. crop was harvested from 12.7 million acres, compared with 12 million last season, while average yield dropped to 443 pounds per acre, compared with 520 pounds last season and the 1968-72 average of 467 pounds.

Cotton production or 1974-75 in foreign non-Communist countries currently is estimated at 28.5 million bales, up 5 percent from last season's output. Acreage increases rather than sharp improvements in yield are largely responsible for the higher production. Outturn increased appreciably in Mexico, Colombia, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Turkey, with smaller increases registered in Bolivia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Greece, Iran, Uganda, India, and Australia. Weather-reduced yields lowered outturn in the large Central American producing countries and Brazil, while competing food crops diverted some acreage from cotton in Egypt, Sudan, and several smaller producers. Average yields per acre rose marginally to 268 pounds from 263 pounds in 1973-74. Area devoted to cotton in foreign non-Communist countries rose to 50.8 million acres, compared with 49.8 million last season.

Cotton production in the Communist countries is estimated at 22.9 million bales, compared with 21.8 million in 1973-74. The Soviet crop is estimated at a record 12.9 million bales, up 1.1 million from last season's and the fifth consecutive record crop. Little quantitative information is available on crop production in the People's Republic of China (PRC). However, indications are that PRC cotton production in 1973-74 was a record and that with reasonably favorable growing conditions in the current season, outturn in 1974-75 again may be good.

Current depressed world textile and raw cotton demand (not expected to improve before mid- to late 1975) will hold world cotton consumption this season to a level nearly 4 million bales below world cotton production. As a result, world stocks, which rose 1 million bales in 1973-74, are expected to increase sharply in 1974-75.

COTTON I AREA, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES. AVERAGE 1968-72; ANNUAL 1973 AND 1974 1/

CONTINENT AND COUNTRY	AREA			YIELD			PRODUCTION 2/		
	AVE. 1968-72	1973	1974 3/	AVE. 1968-72	1973	1974 3/	AVE. 1968-72	1973	1974 3/
	THOUSAND ACRES	THOUSAND ACRES	THOUSAND ACRES	POUNDS PER ACRE	POUNDS PER ACRE	POUNDS PER ACRE	THOUSAND BALES	THOUSAND BALES	THOUSAND BALES
W. H. AMERICA									
MEXICO	157	235	235	793	694	674	260	340	330
GUATEMALA	197	255	260	820	904	785	337	480	425
HONDURAS	15	22	20	536	502	552	17	23	23
NICARAGUA	1,308	1,065	1,385	672	663	671	1,830	1,470	1,935
UNITED STATES	281	450	440	689	704	682	404	660	625
OTHER	11,866	11,970	12,670	467	520	443	11,062	12,974	11,702
TOTAL 4/	13,420	14,085	15,098	498	544	479	13,931	15,966	15,060
W. H. AMERICA									
ARGENTINA	1,916	1,168	1,200	241	230	230	511	560	575
BOLIVIA	69	150	175	453	432	425	65	135	155
BRAZIL	6,300	5,650	5,700	223	225	211	2,930	2,650	2,500
COLOMBIA	598	635	700	479	472	480	597	625	700
ECUADOR	44	60	85	255	200	316	24	25	56
PARAGUAY	141	250	250	235	211	192	69	110	100
PERU	376	375	405	482	525	480	378	410	405
VENEZUELA	135	200	270	281	324	267	79	135	150
OTHER	2	1	2	218	480	240	1	1	1
TOTAL 4/	8,682	8,489	8,787	257	263	254	4,654	4,651	4,642
EUROPE									
BULGARIA	103	91	90	283	316	293	61	60	55
GREECE	356	365	370	680	664	714	505	505	550
ITALY	15	10	10	197	240	240	6	5	5
SPAIN	264	235	260	443	449	406	262	220	220
YUGOSLAVIA	29	22	22	252	262	305	15	12	14
OTHER	60	60	120	232	240	240	29	30	45
TOTAL 4/	847	783	872	497	510	489	878	832	889
U.S.-S.H.									
AFRICA									
ANGOLA	195	210	210	283	343	331	115	150	145
CAMEROON	254	150	205	191	160	164	101	50	70
CENT. AFRICAN REP.	296	300	300	152	120	136	94	75	85
CHAD	735	665	680	131	144	141	200	200	200
EGYPT	1,608	1,660	1,585	689	650	625	2,308	2,248	2,165
KENYA	63	128	170	134	86	71	23	23	25
MALAWI	98	110	110	144	131	131	29	30	30
MOROCCO	43	40	35	345	324	411	31	27	30
MUZAMBIQUE	935	800	700	102	96	103	198	160	150
NIGERIA	930	800	870	129	87	138	250	145	250
RHODESIA	240	250	250	404	461	461	202	240	240
SOMALI REPUBLIC	33	34	34	117	113	113	8	8	8
SOUTH AFRICA, REP. OF	110	150	150	345	544	544	79	170	170
SUDAN	1,246	1,220	1,200	411	433	400	1,068	1,100	1,000
TANZANIA	500	500	278	288	274	290	300	285	285
UGANDA	2,200	2,500	2,500	78	50	63	357	260	330
ZAIKE (CONGO, D.R.)	310	555	150	78	108	97	90	125	125
OTHER	949	10,016	1,035	220	250	256	436	530	592
TOTAL 4/	10,765	11,088	11,089	262	251	249	5,886	5,806	5,760
ASIA									
AFGHANISTAN	154	180	185	365	400	389	117	150	150
BURMA	372	410	375	77	76	70	60	65	55
CHINA, PEOPLES REP.	12,900	11,900	11,900	345	399	399	8,680	9,900	9,900
INDIA	19,200	18,800	18,300	128	140	152	5,116	5,500	5,800
IRAN	650	830	890	428	532	526	757	920	965
IRAQ	90	150	150	347	208	208	65	65	65
ISRAEL	83	86	100	987	949	1,056	170	170	220
KOREA, REP. OF	40	33	32	236	276	255	20	19	17
PAKISTAN	4,561	4,560	4,900	292	301	294	2,776	2,860	3,000
SOUTHERN YEMEN	39	40	40	318	348	360	26	29	30
SYRIA	640	495	520	536	693	618	715	715	670
THAILAND	140	105	150	277	343	304	104	75	95
TURKEY	1,643	1,675	2,070	617	675	626	2,113	2,356	2,700
OTHER	113	116	121	180	174	167	42	42	42
TOTAL 4/	40,024	39,380	39,733	249	279	286	20,761	22,866	23,719
OCEANIA									
AUSTRALIA	84	100	90	818	672	960	143	140	180
TOTAL 4/	84	100	90	818	672	960	143	140	180
TOTAL FOREIGN NONCOMMUNIST 4/	50,164	49,839	50,824	253	263	269	26,403	27,279	28,520
TOTAL COMMUNIST 4/	18,453	18,891	19,075	482	553	578	18,918	21,808	22,918
WORLD TOTAL 4/	80,382	80,701	82,569	337	369	367	56,383	62,061	63,140

1/ Harvest season beginning August 1. 2/ Bales of 480 pounds net. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ As a result of rounding, sum of digits may not add to total.

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service, Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attachés and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research, and related information.

WORLD 1974 FLAXSEED PRODUCTION ESTIMATE INCREASED

World flaxseed production in 1974 now is estimated at 2.28 million metric tons, compared with 2.29 million tons in 1973. Smaller flaxseed crops were reported in some major producing countries, such as the United States and Canada, while production increased in Argentina, India, Poland, Uruguay, and probably the USSR.

U.S. flaxseed production fell from 409,000 tons in 1973 to 339,000 tons (13.3 million bushels) in 1974, the

lowest output since 1938. Harvested acreage decreased only slightly to 1,645,000 acres.

Since the last flaxseed summary in December, estimated world production was revised upward because of an increase in expected production from the 1974-75 Argentine crop. (Additional analysis appears in the December issue of **World Agricultural Production and Trade**).

Flaxseed: Acreage and Production in selected countries and the world, 1969-74

Continent and Country	Harvested Acreage						Production					
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 2/	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 2/
(In 1,000 acres)						(In 1,000 metric tons)						
North America:												
Canada.....	2,341	3,313	1,767	1,320	1,450	1,500	700	1,243	567	447	493	363
Mexico.....	32	19	59	25	27	10	10	30	40	10	11	5
United States.....	2,605	2,818	1,545	1,151	1,692	1,645	887	751	462	353	409	339
(In 1,000 bushels).....							(14,929)	29,518	18,198	13,909	16,091	13,337
Total.....	4,978	6,210	3,371	2,496	3,169	3,155	1,597	2,021	1,069	810	913	707
South America:												
Argentina.....	1,955	2,061	1,111	1,090	891	1,186	640	680	316	330	297	360
Brazil 3/.....	109	62	25	25	25	25	31	22	12	12	12	10
Chile 3/.....	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Uruguay 2/.....	277	226	182	118	115	185	105	64	53	29	26	45
Total 4/.....	2,343	2,331	1,323	1,232	1,033	1,398	777	757	372	372	335	416
European Community:												
Belgium-Luxembourg 5/.....	38	20	31	20	17	15	10	5	9	6	5	5
France 6/.....	99	98	103	96	94	—	20	19	21	20	11	—
Italy 2/.....	3	2	2	7	6	—	1	1	1	2	1	—
Netherlands 5/.....	22	12	17	15	12	18	9	5	7	6	4	7
Total EC.....	162	132	153	138	129	133	10	30	38	31	21	24
Other Western Europe:												
Spain 5/.....	10	10	10	10	10	—	4	3	1	1	1	—
Total West Europe.....	172	142	163	148	139	143	14	33	39	35	22	25
Eastern Europe:												
Czechoslovakia 5/.....	92	77	64	64	64	—	19	12	14	14	14	—
Germany, East 5/.....	26	27	27	22	10	—	5	4	5	4	2	—
Hungary.....	33	35	64	62	52	—	13	14	32	22	22	—
Poland 5/.....	247	242	248	238	191	250	57	65	75	54	51	75
Romania.....	178	195	208	206	209	200	38	52	58	51	45	50
Estimated Total E.												
Europe.....	576	576	611	592	526	576	1,132	137	184	145	134	159
Estimated Total Europe 7/.....	718	718	774	740	665	719	176	170	223	180	156	184
USSR 5/ (Europe and Asia).....	3,897	3,830	3,830	3,830	3,083	3,100	451	471	520	470	309	325
Africa:												
Egypt 5/.....	40	22	30	37	35	35	10	13	13	17	16	16
Ethiopia 5/.....	277	277	277	277	277	—	62	56	70	69	72	—
Morocco.....	10	15	15	15	5	5	7	3	3	5	1	3
Tunisia 5/.....	15	15	15	15	15	—	2	2	2	2	2	2
Estimated Total A/.....	342	329	337	314	332	332	81	82	88	92	91	93
Asia:												
Bangladesh.....	36	36	32	29	28	—	7	7	5	5	—	—
India.....	4,193	4,455	4,687	5,100	4,264	4,636	329	459	474	530	428	471
Iran.....	14	14	7	7	7	—	6	6	3	3	—	—
Iraq.....	44	44	32	32	32	—	14	12	8	8	8	—
Pakistan 5/.....	17	15	19	23	25	—	2	4	8	8	13	—
Turkey 5/.....	42	32	26	23	23	—	12	7	7	6	6	—
Total A/.....	4,316	4,596	4,803	5,216	4,381	4,753	370	505	507	560	463	505
Oceania:												
Australia 5/.....	122	103	49	40	45	109	37	31	10	11	14	39
New Zealand.....	12	12	12	12	12	—	10	12	12	12	12	—
Total Oceania.....	134	115	61	52	57	121	47	43	22	23	26	51
Total World A/.....	16,788	18,149	14,499	13,913	12,720	13,578	3,499	4,062	2,801	2,508	2,294	2,281
(In 1,000 bushels).....							(137,749)	159,914	110,270	98,735	90,311	89,759

1/ Harvests of the Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere countries in 1971 was combined with the Southern Hemisphere harvest which began late in 1971 and ended early in 1972. Estimates do not include China where annual production probably varies from 25,000 to 50,000 tons. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Seeded area. 4/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available. 5/ Includes fiber flax area and seed production. 6/ Acreage includes that harvested for seed and that portion of fiber acreage which is harvested for seed as well as fiber. Production includes seed from fiber flax. 7/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 8/ Flaxseed from acreage grown for seed only.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attachés and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research, and related information.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

CIRCULARS

Grains

Winter Grain Crop Conditions in Northern Hemisphere countries outside The USA (FG 1-75)

U.S. Exports Of Prepared And Other Feeds Down Slightly In 1973-74; Value Up (FG 2-75)

World Grain Situation Review And Outlook (FG 3-75)

Livestock and Meat

Trade In Livestock and Livestock Products In November (FLM MT 1-75)

Sugar and Tropical Products

World Coffee Production Estimate Down (FCOF 1-75)

World Honey Output Unchanged In 1974 (FHON 1-75)